

In re: Ronald D. Hoover  
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Filed: May 22, 2001  
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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Claim 1 (Twice Amended): A container for holding fishing lures, each said lure having a neck, a lower-wire-segment, and an upper wire segment, said ~~container~~ comprising:

a bottom;

a continuous sidewall coextensive with the perimeter of said bottom;

at least one channel comprised of two barriers- a retainer comprising at least two parallel vertical members connected to said bottom, said retainer further comprising at least two barriers, each said barrier extending perpendicularly from a respective vertical member, said barriers being connected to said bottom to define therebetween a channel for holding a lower segment of a lure along said bottom; and

a first catch in at least one of said vertical members for compressing an upper segment of a lure toward the lower segment of a lure extending along said bottom to hold the upper and lower segments of a lure stationary in the channel, above said bottom in each of said channels; and

a second catch spaced vertically from said first catch and positioned above said bottom in each of said channels;

whereby when said fishing lure is placed within said channel with said lower wire segment adjacent to said bottom, and said upper wire segment is placed within said catch, said upper wire segment is compressed toward said lower wire segment, and said fishing lure is held in place.

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Claim 2 (currently amended): The container of Claim 1, further comprising a partition perpendicular to said bottom, dividing said container into two portions.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The container of Claim 2, wherein said ~~channels run perpendicular~~ barriers extend perpendicularly to said partition and form a row ~~extending between said sidewalls~~ of channels within said sidewall on at least one side of said partition.

Claim 4 (cancelled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): The container of Claim 1, ~~wherein said retainer further comprising a~~ comprises at least one neck rest perpendicularly connected to said bottom and further connected to two adjacent vertical members, ~~between said barriers, said neck rest having a curved surface adapted to fit the neck of a lure.~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): The container of Claim 1, wherein said catch is from about 0.75 to 2 inches above said bottom.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A container for holding fishing lures, ~~each said lure having~~ that have a neck, a lower ~~wire~~ lure segment, and an upper wire lure segment, ~~said container~~ comprising:

a bottom;

a continuous sidewall coextensive with the perimeter of said bottom;

~~a slot vertically oriented on said sidewall;~~

an insert that removably fits within said continuous sidewall, said insert having comprising a rectangular floor and a retainer comprising two parallel vertical members connected to said floor, with a first and second short side, an end wall perpendicular to said floor at said first short side, a rail on the outside of said end wall, said rail adapted to slide vertically into said slot such that said floor

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~~remains parallel with said bottom, a plurality of barriers forming a row of channels running parallel to said end wall, and catch disposed above said bottom in each of said channels at least one~~

said retainer further comprising at least two barriers, each said barrier extending perpendicularly from a respective vertical member, said barriers being connected to said floor to define therebetween a channel for holding a lower segment of a lure along said floor; and

at least one catch in at least one of said vertical members for compressing an upper lure segment toward a lower lure segment extending along said floor to hold the segments of a lure stationary in the channel.

~~whereby when said rail is inserted into said slot said floor is flush with said bottom, said insert is held in place, and when said fishing lure is placed within one of said channels with said lower wire segment against said floor, said upper wire segment is compressed toward said lower wire segment, and said upper wire segment is placed within said catch, the compression of said upper wire segment is maintained and said fishing lure is held in place.~~

Claim 8 (currently amended): The container of Claim 7, further comprising:

~~a second slot~~ a first pair of webs defining a first vertically oriented slot on said sidewall;

~~a second~~ a first end wall connected to a first end of said insert,  
perpendicular to said floor and parallel to said barriers at said second short side;

~~a second first rail on the outside of said second first end wall, said second first rail adapted to slide vertically into said second slot as said rail slides into said slot.~~ into the slot defined by said webs.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The container of Claim 8, further comprising:

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~~a third slot~~ a second pair of webs defining a second slot on said sidewall,  
parallel to and adjacent to said directly opposite the first slot on said sidewall;

~~an a second end wall connected to a second end of said insert, opposite~~  
said first end wall, perpendicular to said floor, and parallel to said barriers;

~~a fourth slot on said sidewall, opposite said third slot, parallel to and~~  
adjacent said second slot;

~~third and fourth rails~~ a second rail on the outside of said second end wall  
wall, adapted to slide vertically into said third and fourth slots, respectively,  
between said second pair of webs into the second slot as said first rail and said  
second rail slide slides between said first pair of webs into the first slot, into said  
first slot and said second slot.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A bait clip for holding individual spinner  
baits, ~~each said spinner bait having that have~~ a neck, a lower wire segment, and an  
upper wire segment, ~~said bait clip~~ comprising:

a neck rest a single piece body formed of a substantially flat strip of  
material, said strip having a curved neck rest at a first end to cradle the neck of a  
lure and a catch at a second end for compressing an upper lure segment toward a  
lower lure segment; , said neck rest shaped to cradle said neck; a strip, said strip  
having two ends, extending from said neck rest perpendicular to said lower wire  
segment, toward said upper wire segment; and a catch, said catch positioned at  
said end of said strip opposite said neck rest, forming a C shape;

whereby, when said the neck of a lure is placed in said neck rest, and said  
an upper wire lure segment is compressed and placed within said catch, the lure is  
compressed the compression of said upper wire segment is maintained and said  
spinner bait is and held in place within said single piece body.

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Claim 11 (currently amended): The bait clip of Claim 10, wherein said strip is between about 0.75 and 2 inches long.

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~A buzz bait insert for holding fishing lures, said fishing lures having a wire, said insert comprising:~~ A container for holding fishing lures that have at least one cylindrical, wire-like segment, comprising:

a bottom;

a continuous sidewall around the perimeter of said bottom;

an insert that removably fits within said continuous sidewall, said insert comprising a rectangular floor having a first and second short side and a plurality of pairs of buzz clips attached to said floor, each of said pairs of buzz clips oriented in a line and open along said line aligned to open and close around a common axis and encompass a segment of a lure placed inside said buzz clips along said axis;

whereby, when ~~said wire a lure segment~~ is pressed into one of said pairs of placed inside said buzz clips, ~~said wire the lure segment~~ is free to rotate about said ~~line the axis~~, but is retained in within said pair of buzz clips.

Claim 13: (canceled).

Claim 14 (new): The container of Claim 1, further comprising a second catch in at least one vertical member, said second catch vertically separated from said first catch.

Claim 15 (new): The container of Claim 1, wherein said barrier comprises a gusset perpendicularly connected to said vertical member.

Claim 16 (new): The container of Claim 7, wherein said retainer further comprises at least one neck rest perpendicularly connected to said bottom and further connected to two adjacent vertical members.

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Claim 17 (new): The container of Claim 7, wherein said barrier comprises a gusset perpendicularly connected to said vertical member.

Claim 18 (new): The container of Claim 7, further comprising a partition perpendicular to said bottom, dividing said container into two roughly equal portions.

Claim 19 (new): The container of Claim 18, wherein said barriers extend perpendicularly to said partition and form a row of channels within said sidewall on at least one side of said partition.

Claim 20 (new): The container of Claim 12, further comprising:

a first pair of webs defining a first vertically oriented slot on said sidewall;

a first end wall connected to a first end of said insert, perpendicular to said floor and parallel to said barriers;

a first rail on the outside of said first end wall, said first rail adapted to slide vertically into the slot defined by said webs.

Claim 21 (new): The container of Claim 12, further comprising:

a second pair of webs defining a second slot on said sidewall, parallel to and directly opposite the first slot on said sidewall;

a second end wall connected to a second end of said insert, opposite said first end wall, perpendicular to said floor, and parallel to said barriers; and

a second rail on the outside of said second end wall, adapted to slide vertically between said second pair of webs into the second slot as said first rail slides between said first pair of webs into the first slot.

Claim 22 (new): A container for holding fishing lures that have at least one cylindrical, wire-like segment, comprising:

a bottom;

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a continuous sidewall coextensive with the perimeter of said bottom;

a plurality of buzz clips attached to said bottom, each of said buzz clips aligned to open and close around a common axis to encompass a segment of a lure placed inside said buzz clips along the axis;

whereby, when a lure segment is placed inside said buzz clips, the lure segment is free to rotate about the axis, but is retained within said buzz clips.

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